

**Removal of Sin as an Issue through Christ; Judicial Imputation of Divine Righteousness at Salvation as a Target for Real Imputation of Blessings, Rom 8:4**

48. The blessings are classified as a “real imputation” since the source is justice and the target is imputed righteousness. God’s righteousness in us has an affinity for blessings imputed from divine justice.
49. However, such affinity demands that the believer have capacity for the blessing, therefore they are not imputed until the believer’s advance provides this capacity.
50. The Law requires perfection which is imputed righteousness. But the Law cannot provide the blessing, justice must do this.
51. So the Law’s demand for perfection means that a believer must acquire perfection which he cannot produce from his own efforts. Consequently, God must provide His righteousness to the individual.
52. This can only be made possible by removing the burden of sin from the account of the unbeliever and transfer it on the account of a qualified substitute.
53. Jesus Christ was the approved substitute and therefore God decreed that our sins would be transferred from our account to His and then judged.
54. This places on human free will the responsibility to choose between condemnation and salvation by means of a decision to accept or reject the Person and work of Christ.
55. The person’s sins have already been judged. He is left to decide if he can be good enough to work his way into heaven or whether he will accept the grace gift of God through nonmeritorious faith in Christ.
56. The Law requires perfect righteousness; a fallen human cannot provide it on his own, but he may receive the required righteousness through divine imputation by believing in Christ.
57. Once saved then the objective is to grow in grace so that imputed righteousness can become the target for tremendous blessings.
58. The imputation of God’s righteousness to the sinner at salvation is judicial: the righteousness of God has no affinity with fallen humanity, but the removal of the sin problem through Christ makes the imputation judicially possible.
59. The imputation of blessings to the believer at spiritual maturity is real: blessings from justice do have affinity with imputed righteousness.

**Romans 8:4** - in order that the legal requirement of the Law, which is to demonstrate the resident righteousness of God through capacity righteousness but of which the believer is deficient at salvation, might be filled up in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but who do walk according to the Holy Spirit.

60. The next verse expands on the two status quos: those who walk in the flesh and those who walk in the Spirit.

**Romans 8:5** - [NASB] For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

